

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 BANGKO 26802 241209Z

41

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 L-03 CIAE-00

INR-07 NSAE-00 DODE-00 PRS-01 EUR-12 /059 W

----- 021099

R 241038Z DEC 75

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6052

INFO AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE

CINCPAC HON

S E C R E T BANGKOK 26802

CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR,TH,LA

SUBJ: THAI-LAO RELATIONS

1. FOREIGN MINISTER CHATCHAI CHUNHAWAN TOLD THE AMBASSADOR ON DECEMBER 24 THAT HE THOUGHT THERE HAD BEEN A BREAK THROUGH IN THAI-LAO RELATIONS. AS A RESULT OF DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN THE TWO GOVERNMENTS A LAO CULTURAL GROUP WOULD VISIT BANGKOK ON JANUARY 21. AS A GESTURE TO THE LAO, CHATCHAI WOULD PRESIDE AT THE OPENING OF THE FIRST PERFORMANCE. IN EXCHANGE FOR THIS VISIT, THAILAND WOULD OPEN THE BORDER AT NONG KHAI. IT WOULD HOWEVER CLOSE THE BORDER AT CHIANG KHONG PRIMARILY TO CURB THE CONTINUED FLOW OF REFUGEES INTO THAILAND.

2. ASKED ABOUT SOVIET REQUESTS FOR THE AIRLIFT OF MATERIAL TO VIENTIANE, CHATCHAI SAID HE HAD TOLD THE SOVIET AMBASSADOR THAT THERE WOULD BE NO PROBLEM IN SENDING ITEMS FOR USE BY THE SOVIET EMBASSY IN VIENTIANE (BANGKOK 26714). THE RTG COULD NOT HOWEVER AGREE TO THE MOVEMENT OF ITEMS FOR CONSUMPTION BY THE LAO UNTIL THE BORDER WAS OPENED. THE FOREIGN MINISTER ASKED HOW OUR EMBASSY PERSONNEL IN VIENTIANE WERE GETTING ALONG. THE AMBASSADOR AND DCM SAID THAT NO SPECIAL ARRANGEMENTS HAD BEEN MADE TO RESUPPLY OUR EMBASSY AND THAT OUR PEOPLE WERE DOING THE SAME AS OTHER DIPLOMATS IN VIENTIANE--THEY WERE TIGHTENING THEIR BELTS AND RIDING BICYCLES

SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 BANGKO 26802 241209Z

TO SAVE GASOLINE. CHATCHAI REITERATED THAT THE THAI GOVERNMENT

WOULD AGREE TO THE SHIPMENT OF MERCHANDISE FOR USE BY ANY OF THE EMBASIES IN VIENTIANE. SINCE THE LAO MAINTAIN THAT THEIR SIDE OF THE BORDER WAS STILL OPEN, THERE SHOULD BE NO TROUBLE IN MOVING SUCH MATERIAL FOR DIPLOMATIC CONSUMPTION.

3. THE THAI ARE CONTINUING TO TAKE A HARD LINE ON OPENING THE BORDER BUT IT LOOKS LIKE AN ASIAN SOLUTION TO THE PROBLEM WHICH WOULD SAVE FACE ON BOTH SIDES MAY BE IN THE MAKING. SINCE THINGS SEEM TO BE MOVING AHEAD, WE WOULD PREFER AT THIS TIME NOT TO RAISE WITH THE RTG THE LAO REQUEST FOR ASSISTANCE TO REOPEN THE BORDER (STATE 301824).

WHITEHOUSE

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FOREIGN RELATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 24 DEC 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: RowellE0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975BANGKO26802
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750447-0346
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751213/aaaaakre.tel
Line Count: 73
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: RowellE0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 JUL 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 JUL 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <18 NOV 2003 by RowellE0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: THAI-LAO RELATIONS
TAGS: PFOR, PBOR, TH, LA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006